

## Prof. Sverre Sandberg Elected New EFLM President

by Ana-Maria Simundic, EFLM EB Secretary

**P**rof. Sverre Sandberg (Norway) was elected as new President of the EFLM at the recent EFLM General Meeting held in Madrid on March 21, 2016. For the election of the position as EFLM Vice-President, the two candidates Prof. Michael Neumaier (Germany) and Prof. Damien Gruson (Belgium, France) received the following votes: Prof. Michael Neumaier: 16 votes, Prof. Damien Gruson: 15 votes.

We are pleased to announce that the EFLM Executive Board is now composed as follows: President: Prof. Sverre Sandberg (Norway); Past-President: Prof. Mauro Panteghini (Italy); Vice-President: Prof. Michael Neumaier (Germany); Secretary: Prof. Ana-Maria Simundic (Croatia); Treasurer: Dr. Huib Storm (The Netherlands); Member-at-Large: Prof. Grazyna Sypniewska (Poland); Member-at-Large: Prof. Tomas Zima (Czech Rep).

A debt of gratitude to the outgoing EFLM President, Prof. Mauro Panteghini, for his successful mandate and to the outgoing EFLM Past President, Prof. Ian Watson, who finished his term in the Executive Board.

## EFLM Executive Board 2016-2018



President:  
Sverre Sandberg



Past-President:  
Mauro Panteghini



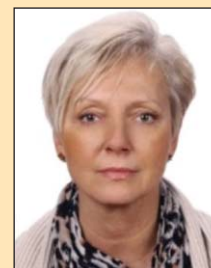
Vice-President:  
Michael Neumaier



Secretary:  
Ana-Maria Simundic



Treasurer:  
Huib Storm



Member-at-Large:  
Grazyna Sypniewska



Member-at-Large:  
Tomas Zima

## News from EFLM National Societies

### French Society of Clinical Biology (SFBC)

This is to inform you that SFBC has a new EFLM National Representative: Dr. Michel Vaubourdolle (Hôpitaux Universitaires Est Parisien, Paris) replacing Dr. Bernard Gouget. A warm welcome to Dr. Vaubourdolle as EFLM National Representative and a big thanks to Dr. Gouget for his always prompt involvement in all activities promoted by EFLM.

### Norwegian Society of Medical Biochemistry (NSMB)

This is to inform you that NSMB has a new EFLM National Representative: Dr. Anne-Lise Bjørke Monsen (Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen) replacing Dr. Ann Helen Kristoffersen. A warm welcome to Dr. Bjørke Monsen and a big thanks to Dr. Kristoffersen for the involvement in EFLM activities in her 4 year term of office as EFLM National Representative.

## EFLM Course: Developing Medical Tests That Improve Patient Outcomes

November 9–11, 2016, Leiden, The Netherlands

**L**aboratory medicine has a poor record bringing new tests to market in a timely and effective way. Evidence based laboratory medicine (EBLM) provides the underlying principles for how a new biomarker should go through the test evaluation process but these principles alone do not appear to have guided better evaluation. This course aims to address that gap by extending the principles of EBLM to provide some practical tools for the key processes of test evaluation.

Key Features of 21/2 day course:

The course will be interactive and talks by keynote speakers will be followed by practical assignments.

- Test evaluation – definitions and basic concepts
- Tools to conduct test evaluation including: Identifying unmet needs for biomarkers; Clinical pathway mapping to define the role and purpose of biomarkers in changing outcomes; Determination of analytical and clinical performance character-


istics of biomarkers; Assessing the clinical effectiveness of biomarkers.

- Talks to highlight the differing perspectives and experience of key stakeholders and experts in test evaluation
- Practical assignments to understand the use of test evaluation tools.

Target Audience: Qualified laboratory professionals; Researchers involved in biomarker development and test evaluation; Clinicians involved in biomarker use and evaluation in clinical practice; Healthcare company and regulatory representatives.

Secure your space at a Course delivered by the EFLM Test Evaluation Working Group.





Keynote Speakers: Rita Horvath, Patrick Bossuyt, Sverre Sandberg, Sally Lord, Phillip J Monaghan, and others. For further information, visit the course website at: [www.eflm-test-evaluation-course.eu](http://www.eflm-test-evaluation-course.eu). The participation is limited to 60 attendees – early registration within May 31.



**EUROMEDLAB  
ATHENS 2017  
11-15 JUNE**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> IFCC - EFLM European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
- 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation
- 15<sup>th</sup> National Congress of GSCC-CB

[www.athens2017.org](http://www.athens2017.org)

## European Representation in the IFCC: A Historical Outline

by Ian D Watson, Chair of the EFLM History Task and Finish Group



Photo: The first EFLM Executive Board (from left): M. Pazzagli, K. Pullki, R. Horvath, M. Hallworth, H. van Pelt, V. Blaton

### The Beginnings, FESCC

In the 1970's a number of clinical chemists from a number of countries were concerned about the comparability of the profession in Europe. From this initiative a Directive was developed. In 1987 at the World Congress in The Hague a meeting of the European Society Presidents was convened by Gerard Sanders, the NVKC President, from this a vocational training program was developed. It was clear that collaboration was beneficial and that a European regional organization had relevance and benefit; a Steering Committee under Prof. Valdiue was formed which consulted European societies in 1992. In 1993 FESCC (Forum of European Societies of Clinical Chemistry) was formed with Hermann Wisser as the first President and was recognized by IFCC with the support of the IFCC President Gérard Siest. FESCC focused its efforts on education, being particularly active in the Balkans.

Presidents: 1987-1990 – Hermann Wisser (Germany); 1991-1993 – Pierre Valdiue (France); 1993-1996 – Josep Queraltó (Spain); 1996-1999 – Vladimir Palicka (Czech Republic); 2000-2007 – Victor Blaton (Belgium).

### EC4

While efforts to form FESCC reflected a desire for representation of the geographical continent of Europe, those societies whose nations were members of the European Economic Community recognized that there were particular issues, specifically the ease of movement between member countries; there was an informal meeting around 1977-1978 chaired by Ad Jansen [Netherlands] as there was a need for comparable competencies to be defined and communicated to decision makers; after a quiescent period EC4 (European Communities Confederation of Clinical Chemistry) was re-launched at EuroMedLab in

Nice in 1993. Along with developing a syllabus, the required training periods and attainments were identified, forming the basis for a voluntary register with the post-nominal of Eur Clin Chem the first certificates were awarded in 1998.

Presidents: 1996-1999 – Gerard Sanders (Netherlands); 1999-2005 – Rob Jansen (Netherlands); 2005-2007 – Mike Hallworth (UK).

### Post-Merger – EFCC/EFLM

With the expansion of the EU there was increasing commonality between FESCC and EC4 it was clear that a single organization would suffice; the FESCC and EC4 Presidents worked to form the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFCC) at the 2007 EuroMedLab in Amsterdam; the acronym changed to EFLM when registered as a not-for-profit organization in 2013. The EC4 Register continued as an autonomous entity linked to EFLM.

Presidents: 2007-2008 – Victor Blaton (Belgium); 2008-2009 – Mike Hallworth (UK); 2009-2011 – Andrea (Rita) Horvath (Hungary); 2011-2013 – Ian Watson (UK); 2013-2016 – Mauro Panteghini (Italy).

### More Information:

The EFLM History Task and Finish Group would value recollections from those who have been involved with EFLM's predecessor organizations. We would particularly value any documentation and photographs. Please contact me, Ian Watson at iandwat@me.com or by phone: +447889324549.

An expanded version of this poster is available on the EFLM website: [www.eflm.eu](http://www.eflm.eu)

*Acknowledgement: My thanks to past and present officers of FESCC, EC4, EFCC and EFLM for their recollections, documentation and photographs that have provided the background information.*

## In Memoriam: Prof. Gérard Siest

by Prof. Michael Neumaier, Vice-President EFLM  
(on behalf of the EFLM Executive Board)

With great sadness we just had to learn that our dear colleague, fellow scientist and friend Prof. Dr. Gérard Siest has passed away.

Not only was Prof. Gérard Siest an untiring pacemaker of Clinical Chemistry and a restless protagonist to promote and sharpen the scientific profile of our profession.

For many years, his presence on scientific and general conferences was like an institution to us, and you could always be sure to find him around somewhere. Whether talking to colleagues in private conversation or participating in lively floor discussions, he was at his best when sharing his enthusiasm for new projects and his visions for the advancement of scientific Laboratory Medicine. Gérard certainly had an impressive talent to get people interested in his ideas, and often - in good humor - he directly had a job from them.

During his brilliant professional career, Prof. Siest was always willing to take the baton to promote academic and scientific affairs. He served in the university Nancy both as dean of his faculty as well as vice president. He was president of IFCC (1991-1996), and his presidential term is still regarded seminal for the strategic positioning of IFCC for the 21st century, particularly in bringing regional societies together. Many of his activities have become "brands" like the Santorini conferences that he organized with Dr. Sophie Siest for so many years. We continue to be grateful for his excellent 12-year period as Editor-in-

Chief of CCLM that resulted in a steep incline in visibility and impact of one of our core scientific journal. Similarly successfully, he did so for a number of other journals related to his prime research interests. Although long retired, he took to such time-consuming and strenuous tasks, because he clearly saw and emphasized the importance of strengthening publication organs capable to give laboratory sciences the appropriate forum and visibility.

His enthusiasm and efficiency in "getting the job done" was greatly appreciated as is reflected by the fact that he was elected board member in a number of scientific societies, where he served until now. It is therefore not surprising that he received numerous awards for his valuable contributions.

His last "pet project" was the foundation of the European Society for Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Therapy, a task he took on with his usual vigour. Within few years, he had built ESPT into a real success story and, as president of ESPT, continued to promote it together with many young and talented colleagues to a major platform for modern diagnostic science and health care.

On behalf of the European Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine and all its members, the Executive Board of EFLM wants to express the sincerest condolences to Prof. Siest's wife and our colleague Dr. Sophie Siest, his children and family for the tragic loss experienced.

## 4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress: Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface Warsaw, 21-24 September 2016

The 4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress in Warsaw is the largest European event in Laboratory Medicine and Clinical Diagnostics in 2016. More than 50 international experts in the field of clinical medicine and laboratory diagnostics will present state of the art lectures and more than 700 participants, both laboratory professionals and clinicians, from all over the world are expected.

The Congress program includes scientific symposia, plenary lectures, poster sessions, debates, and educational workshops. Congress topics are selected to address hot topics of medicine, in areas such as cardiology, oncology, nephrology, neurology, endocrinology, transplantation, immunology, microbiology, paediatrics, among others. Laboratory diagnostics at the clinical interface spans from next generation sequencing, assessment of cell free DNA, mass spectrometry, to point-of-care-testing for diagnosing

and predicting disease as well as for guiding and monitoring therapy.

The organizers particularly encourage young physicians, laboratory professionals, scientists, and researchers to submit their work. All abstracts will be reviewed by an international evaluation committee and the best abstracts will be selected as oral presentations. There are reduced registration fees for all young scientists <35 years and travel bursaries are available to participate in the Congress. Industry sponsored workshops will give the diagnostic industry the opportunity to present their latest innovations to a specialist audience.

Don't miss this important event in the beautiful Warsaw. We look forward to seeing you in Warsaw this September!

Prof. Grazyna Sypniewska (EFLM, PTDL), President of the Congress and Organizing Committee Chair; Prof. Eberhard Wieland (UEMS) Scientific Programme Committee Chair



## Turkish Biochemical Society Marks 40th Anniversary

The Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS) celebrated its 40th anniversary with a number of scientific and social activities during the 27th National Biochemistry Congress, which was held in the charming city of Antalya, during November 3–6, 2015. The meeting was organized by TBS under the auspices of EFLM and IFCC, along with contributions from well-known IVD companies. More than 600 participants attended, and nearly 148 of them were students in their postgraduate education.

The opening ceremony started with the honorary speech of Nazmi Ozer (the former president) who gave a wonderful overview of the history of TBS with many photos from the past activities. After the ceremony of the honor awards given to colleagues who had served 40 years in the society, the opening talk was given by a celebrity, one of the most well-known stand-up artists (also a scriptwriter and a caricaturist), Gani Mujde. The participants welcomed this delightful and embracing talk, titled "God let our biochemistry match" that had many anecdotes from real life.

The scientific program of the Congress covered a large area of themes in laboratory medicine that were presented in 5 plenaries and 11 symposia. There was a wide range of interesting presentations from mass spectrometry and clinical laboratory to Vitamin D & Vitamin K2 relationship and bone metabolism markers, from food additives and their effects on toxicology and laboratory medicine, from noninvasive prenatal tests to innovations in the teaching of laboratory practices. All were delivered by well-known speakers and experts and focused on quality assessment, standardization and method evaluation, performance criteria of laboratory tests, laboratory errors and patient safety. One of the most interesting plenaries was given by Assistant Professor Dr. Mazhar Adli (Adli Lab, University of Virginia, School of Medicine, Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics) about CRISPR/Cas9 technology that is used for epigenome editing, chromatin structure manipulation, and imaging purposes.

As there are TBS members who are also very active in EFLM or IFCC working groups/committees, the 27th National Biochemistry Congress included some unique sessions. Abdurrahman Coskun, TBS representative on EFLM and a member of the EFLM Working Group on Biological Variation (WG-BV), rationally questioned quality specifications in clinical laboratories and addressed to the hot topic of biological variation. TBS also has

a very effective working group of Pre-analytical Phase, led by Mehmet Senes. Their work was introduced in a session, and a very fruitful product of the group's work, "Handbook of the guidelines for obtaining venous blood samples (phlebotomy)" was distributed to all participants of the Congress. "Guidelines on Clinical Laboratory Management of Chronic Kidney Disease," written by Dogan Yucel, TBS President and a member of the IFCC Task Force for Chronic Kidney Disease (TF-CKD) was distributed to all participants of the Congress.

There were 263 posters submitted, out of which, 2 were selected every day by the Scientific Committee as the "Poster of the Day" and these were exhibited in a special area. There were 58 oral communications and majority of these were presented by young colleagues, as our association is very interested in motivating young laboratory professionals.

Laboratory medicine is in a permanent partnership with the clinical diagnostic industry and TBS specifically focuses on close relationship with our stakeholders, namely the IVD sector. During the Congress an exhibition of reagents, equipment, supplies, software, was organized by 31 diagnostic and research related companies some of which also gave valuable support for the attendance or accommodation of many young scientists to the Congress. Besides, TBS conducted a hallmark panel in collaboration with ARTED (Producers of Investigative Medical Technologies) on the future of IVD sector in Turkey, and this was followed by lively discussions.

There were five pre-congress workshops (scientific project writing, flow cytometry, optimization of the clinical laboratory, novel approaches in cancer research, mass spectrometry practice in clinical laboratory) and over 100 participants attended these.

All presentations and the abstracts of the congress were published in the special issue of Turkish Journal of Biochemistry (indexed in SCI Expanded, Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Chemical Abstracts, Directory of Open Access Journals, Index Copernicus, Embase, Scopus), a joint publication of de Gruyter and TBS.

This Congress also included a very attractive and engaging social event; the Silent Auction. All senior colleagues who had contributed immensely to the advancement of biochemistry and laboratory medicine in the previous years donated some special objects (such as a book pub-



Photo: TBS Executive Board with former and honorary presidents

lished in the 1940's, or a congress bag from the first congresses or a painting made by themselves, etc.) to this auction. All objects were displayed through the congress and offers were collected. On the gala dinner, the last offers were obtained for each object, and the bid was ended with the highest offer given. It was a very stimulating and delightful time for all participants. All the income from Silent Auction was put in a bursary fund in TBS to be used for young scientists in the coming years.

We are all very pleased with the scientific quality and the diversity of the presentations, the lively scientific interactions and networking as well as the appealing social program of the 27th National Biochemistry Congress. The success of this conference is a great motivation and challenge for the future of TBS.

Last but not least, TBS is proud of its 40 years of history. Forty years of continuous and outstanding work brought a dual success in the development of the society. It is a dual success because TBS, with its members, not only contributed immensely

to the improvement and advancement of clinical laboratory profession in Turkey but also in biochemistry and molecular life sciences, two areas that form the scaffold of all developments in laboratory medicine. The outcome is an active society with more than 2200 members and three branches in Istanbul, Izmir, and Adana. Besides being the member of IFCC since 1997, The Society has other international scientific affiliations with Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS, 1978); International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB, 1978); Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation (BCLF, 1996); European Federation of Laboratory Medicine [EFLM (formerly FESCC, 1997); Balkan Association of Biosciences (BAB, 1999); European Communities Confederation of Clinical Chemists (FESCC + EC4, 2007); World Association of Society of Pathologists and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM, 2013). We trust our next generation of young laboratory professionals who will carry the society even further in the coming years.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EFLM held its Eighth General Meeting (GM) during the EuroMedLab in Paris (France) on Sunday, June 21, 2015. During the GM, EFLM President, Mauro Panteghini (MP), provided an overview of the recent EFLM activities since the last GM held in Liverpool. The importance of the EFLM's ongoing program supporting the presence of Executive Board (EB) members at NSs national congresses was emphasized as an excellent opportunity for EFLM to strengthen its connections with EFLM NSs. MP briefly reported on the outcome of the 1st EFLM Strategic conference held in Milan, November 24–25, 2014, and the subsequent formation of the Task Force on Performance Specifications in L Laboratory Medicine and Task and related Finish Working Groups.

The role of young scientists in EFLM was promoted by opening full member positions in EFLM working groups (WG) and granting bursaries to support their attendance at EFLM meetings. For instance, EFLM had received 76 applications for bursaries for the EuroMedLab 2015 congress, out of which 10 best applicants were granted EFLM bursaries. MP also provided an overview of the progress of the 2014–2015 EFLM Strategic Plan. At the end of his presentation, MP thanked all EFLM officers for their hard work.

Huib Storm (HS), EFLM Treasurer, gave a financial report. Audit of the EFLM financial matters had been done in accordance with GAAP (General Accountant Audit principles). Two subsequent years were audited (2013 and 2014) by the certified auditor who checked whether the financial operations were in accordance with the existing legal rules and principles. The audit was successful and EFLM obtained a certificate proving that EFLM accounts were maintained fully in accordance with the Belgian law and GAAP. HS presented the balance sheets for 2013 and 2014 and explained each balance line. EFLM GM approved the balance sheet for 2013 and 2014 and the internal budget for 2014 and 2015.

During the GM elections were held and following EB members were elected:

- Mauro Panteghini re-elected as EFLM President
- Sverre Sandberg re-elected as EFLM Vice President
- Huib Storm elected for a second two-year term as EFLM Treasurer
- Ana-Maria Simundic elected for a second two-year term as EFLM Secretary
- Grazyna Syniowska and Tomas Zima elected as Members-at-Large

The next GM will be held in Madrid in conjunction with the IFCC General Conference on March 21, 2016.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Through the EFLM program entitled EFLM Presence at NS meetings, during 2015 EB members participated in three EFLM NS meetings hosted by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland and Croatia.

EB has recently launched a call for nominations for the EFLM President and EFLM Vice President. Voting for these two EB positions shall take place in Madrid at the ninth GM.

EFLM EB has discussed on several occasions the IFCC proposal on theselection of regional representatives in the IFCC EB. EFLM EB in principle believes that an individual representing a Region should be selected and participate in the policies and actions of a Region, and should be elected within that Region using the Region agreed electoral process. This ensures a meaningful contextual representation of the Regional EB.

## COMMITTEES

### Committee – Communication (C-C)

A major effort of C-C during 2015 was dedicated to a rearrangement of the EFLM website, where a great care was devoted to improve the document retrieval in the EFLM publication list and to a better organization of the educational material. Following the publication of the EFLM corporate policy, an agreement has been reached with a number of IVD com-

panies to host in the EFLM web site their logo and some news. To improve the services for the Member Societies, the Table of Content of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM) is regularly sent through the EFLM mass mailing list that includes now more than 4,000 addresses. To increase the presence of EFLM within the professional community, a LinkedIn group was created to promote discussions on relevant themes.

### Committee – Education and Training (C-ET)

EFLM has entitled C-ET to establish the EFLM continuing professional development (CPD) crediting system. To perform this task EFLM has decided to establish a specific Task and Finish group. C-ET has been involved in the organization of 15th EFLM Postgraduate Course, 11th Symposium of Balkan region and in selection of the venues of 5th EFLM-UEMS Congress and 22nd EuroMedLab. WG-Distance education (WG-DE) produced five e-seminars in 2015.

### Committee – Profession (C-P) and EC4 Foundation

Version 5 of the EC4 Syllabus for education and training of specialists in laboratory medicine across the EU community has reached its penultimate draft for circulation to EFLM EB and EC4 representatives early in 2016. Having accomplished this remit and the production of a Common Training Framework (CTF), the C-P WG on Syllabus/CTF was dissolved at the end of 2015.

WG on Recognition of professional qualifications continued its lobbying of the EU Commission for recognition of specialists in laboratory medicine under the EU Directive 2013/55/EU. EFLM and EC4 agreed to continue their subscriptions to CEPLIS (Council for the Liberal Professions in the EU) during 2016 as well as EU Commission lobbying activities on behalf of the profession. This second WG was also dissolved at the end of 2015, but its key leads have been invited to join an expanded C-P for 2016.

Concern was expressed at C-P and EC4 meetings in 2015 of the diminishing infrastructure around EC4 as more and more Europe-wide leadership for laboratory medicine transfers to EFLM. This was noted to be manifested through decreasing numbers of individuals seeking to join the EC4 Register as specialists in laboratory medicine and decreasing numbers of "hits" on an out-of-date EC4 web site. There is broad agreement that the leadership for achieving recognition of specialists through presentation of a CTF supported by 10 EU member states should now come from EFLM. C-P chair was requested to seek to dissolve the current EC4 Foundation and create an EFLM Foundation by end 2016 to which the necessary human, capital and organizational resources could be dedicated to achieve recognition of specialists in laboratory medicine through a register across the EU.

### Committee – Quality and Regulations (C-QR)

C-QR performed a survey on the accreditation status in the different European countries. C-QR members published a paper on flexible scope approach for accreditation. At the end of 2015, C-QR was restructured by closing the WG-IVD and adding one WG-IVD member into the WG-A/ISO.

### Committee – Science (C-S)

The nine WGs under this C (Biological Variation, Cardiac Markers, Guidelines, Harmonization of the Total Testing Process, Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine, Personalized Laboratory Medicine, Postanalytical Phase, Preanalytical Phase and Test Evaluation) and the three Task and Finish Groups (Laboratory Testing for Dyslipidemia, Critical Results and Standardization of the Color Coding for Blood Collection Closures) constitute the backbone and substance of the C-S. All groups have been active in pursuing their terms of reference, by performing studies, publishing original research reports, reviews and position papers. Members of the groups have also lectured at numerous international conferences and courses.

## MEETINGS

EFLM has organized five meetings during 2015:

1. 3rd EFLM-BD Conference on Preanalytical Phase, March

20–21, 2015, Porto (Portugal)

2. EFLM Symposium on Education in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, April 24–26, 2015, Prague (Czech Republic)
3. 11th EFLM Symposium for Balkan Region, May 14–15, 2015; Belgrade (Serbia)
4. EFLM Symposium Cutting Edge of Laboratory Management in Europe (CELME), October 1–2, 2015, Prague (Czech Republic)
5. 15th EFLM Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, October 24–25, 2015, Zagreb (Croatia)

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Boursier G, et al; Working Group Accreditation and ISO/CEN standards (WG-A/ISO) of the EFLM. Accreditation process in European countries - an EFLM survey. CCLM 2015, in press
2. Topic E, et al. How to assess the quality of your analytical method? CCLM 2015;53:1707-18.
3. Thelen MH, et al; Working Group Accreditation ISO/CEN standards (WG-A/ISO) of EFLM. Flexible scope for ISO 15189 accreditation: a guidance prepared by the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) Working Group Accreditation and ISO/CEN standards (WG-A/ISO). CCLM 2015;53:1173-80.
4. Watson ID, et al; EFLM Working Group on Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine. European views on patients directly obtaining their laboratory test results. CCLM 2015;53:1961-6.
5. Ajzner É, et al; Joint Working Group on Postanalytical Phase (WG-POST) of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and European Organization for External Quality Assurance Providers in Laboratory Medicine (EQALM). An international study of how laboratories handle and evaluate patient samples after detecting an unexpected APTT prolongation. CCLM 2015;53:1593-603.
6. Bartlett WA, et al; Biological Variation Working Group, European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM). A checklist for critical appraisal of studies of biological variation. CCLM 2015;53:879-85.
7. Malentacchi F, et al; European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM); European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Therapy (ESPT) Joint Working Group on Personalized Laboratory Medicine (WG-PLM). Is laboratory medicine ready for the era of personalized medicine? A survey addressed to laboratory directors of hospitals/academic schools of medicine in Europe. CCLM 2015;53:981-8.
8. Simundic AM, et al. Compliance of blood sampling procedures with the CLSI H3-A6 guidelines: An observational study by the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) working group for the preanalytical phase (WG-PRE). CCLM 2015;53:1321-31.
9. Lippi G, et al; European Federation for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Working Group for Preanalytical Phase. Preanalytical quality improvement. In pursuit of harmony, on behalf of European Federation for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) Working group for Preanalytical Phase (WG-PRE). CCLM 2015;53:357-70.
10. Mancini I, et al; European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)–European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Therapeutics (ESPT) joint Working Group Personalized Laboratory Medicine (WG-PLM). Implementation of a companion diagnostic in the clinical laboratory: the BRAF example in melanoma. Clin Chim Acta 2015;439:128-36.
11. Simundic AM, et al. Color coding for blood collection tube closures - a call for harmonization. CCLM 2015;53:371-6.

Mauro Panteghini, EFLM President

Prepared by Ana-Maria Simundic  
EFLM Executive Board Secretary  
February 12, 2016